

Amendment

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/761,561

one metal ion, and where R is present in an at least equimolar amount based on the amount of M, and M is microbicidal to at least one microorganism, wherein said at least one organic chelating moiety is an amino acid, wherein said amino acid includes a double bonded oxygen, and wherein said double bonded oxygen of said amino acid is complexed to M.

9. (Amended) A method to control the growth of microorganisms comprising contacting the microorganisms with a microbicidal composition comprising a complex of the formula R-M, wherein R is at least one organic chelating moiety and M is at least one metal ion, and where R is present in an at least equimolar amount based on the amount of M, and M is microbicidal to at least one microorganism, wherein said at least one organic chelating moiety is an amino acid, wherein said amino acid includes a double bonded oxygen, and wherein said double bonded oxygen of said amino acid is complexed to M, and wherein said composition kills said microorganisms intracellularly.

13. (Amended) A method to prepare the microbicidal composition comprising a complex of the formula R-M, wherein R is at least one organic chelating moiety and M is at least one metal ion, and where R is present in an at least equimolar amount based on the amount of M, and M is microbicidal to at least one microorganism, wherein said at least one organic chelating moiety is an amino acid, wherein said amino acid includes a double bonded oxygen, and wherein said double bonded oxygen of said amino acid is complexed to M, wherein said method comprises dissolving a salt containing metal in at least one inorganic acid and an aqueous source; and

adding at least one organic chelating compound containing R to form a metal complex having the formula R-M, wherein the preparation of the composition occurs at a pH of about 2.0 or less.

14. (Amended) The microbicidal composition of claim 1, wherein said at least one disinfectant comprises one or more of chlorhexidine gluconate, chlorhexidine digluconate, chlorhexidine dihydrochloride, and chlorhexidine diacetate.

15. (Amended) The microbicidal composition of claim 1, wherein said at least one disinfectant comprises one or more of isopropyl alcohol and hydrogen peroxide.

16. (Amended) A microbicidal composition comprising at least one disinfectant and a product obtained by combining at least one metal ion (M) with at least an equimolar amount of at least one organic chelating moiety (R) based on the amount of M, wherein M is microbicidal to at least one microorganism, wherein said at least organic chelating moiety is an amino acid, wherein said amino acid includes a double bonded oxygen, and wherein said double bonded oxygen of said amino acid is complexed to M.

21. (Amended) A microbicidal composition comprising a disinfectant and a complex of the formula R-M, wherein R is at least one organic chelating moiety and M is at least one metal ion, and where R is present in an at least equimolar amount based on the amount of M, and M is microbicidal to at least one microorganism, wherein said at least one organic chelating moiety is formed from an amino acid, said organic chelating moiety has a carboxylic group which forms a dative covalent bond with M, and wherein said carboxylic group includes a double bonded oxygen which is complexed to M.

23. (Amended) A method for preserving cut flowers or plants from pathological microorganisms comprising:

treating said flowers and plants with the microbicidal composition comprising a complex of the formula R-M, wherein R is at least one organic chelating moiety and M is at least one

metal ion, and where R is present in an at least equimolar amount based on the amount of M, and M is microbicidal to at least one microorganism, wherein said at least one organic chelating moiety is an amino acid, wherein said amino acid includes a double bonded oxygen, and wherein said double bonded oxygen of said amino acid is complexed to M.

26. (Amended) A method for protecting living flowers or plants comprising treating said flowers and plants with the microbicidal composition comprising a complex of the formula R-M, wherein R is at least one organic chelating moiety and M is at least one metal ion, and where R is present in an at least equimolar amount based on the amount of M, and M is microbicidal to at least one microorganism, wherein said at least one organic chelating moiety is an amino acid, wherein said amino acid includes a double bonded oxygen, and wherein said double bonded oxygen of said amino acid is complexed to M.

28. (Amended) A microbicidal composition comprising an organo-metallic chelate of silver cations and glutamic acid, wherein the chelate exhibits the structural spectra depicted in Figures 1, 2, or 3, or combinations thereof below:

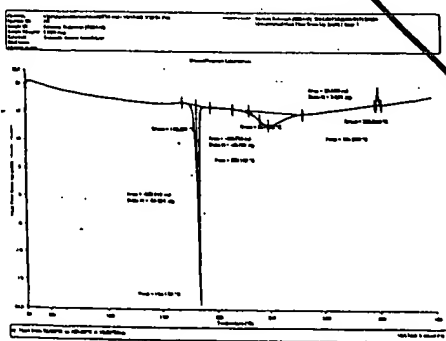


Figure 1. DSC Spectrum.

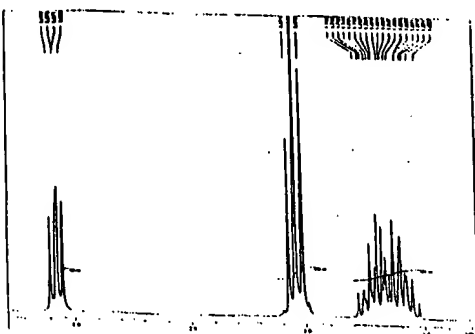
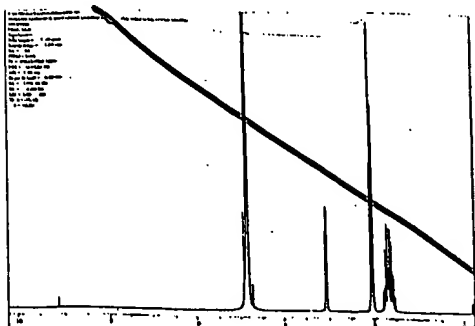


Figure 2. Proton NMR Spectrum.

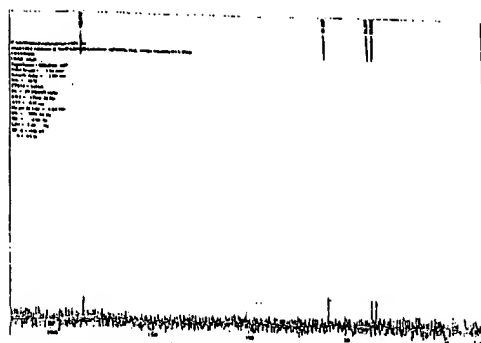


Figure 3. Carbon NMR Spectrum.